

FILED

MAY 16 2005

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Montana Water Court

No. 86-397

FILED

MAY 11 2005

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE)
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES)
AND CONSERVATION.)

ORDER

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

On December 30, 2004, the Honorable Bruce C. Loble, Chief Water Judge of the Montana Water Court, filed herein a Petition to Revise Water Right Claim Examination Rules. We issued an order on January 19, 2005, directing that the bench and bar and any interested persons file written comments, suggestions or criticisms to the Clerk of this Court regarding the revisions of the water right claim examination rules proposed by the Petition filed by the Water Court on or before April 30, 2005.

The Water Court now has filed a motion to extend the deadline for comments from April 30, 2005, up to and through May 31, 2005. The Water Court notes that the 2005 Legislature enacted legislation that affect some of the proposed rules and that the Water Court requires additional time to propose appropriate language to harmonize the proposed rule changes with the 2005 legislation. The Water Court further notes that he has contacted counsel for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Montana Board of Natural Resources and Conservation and that they do not object to this motion for extension. Therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Bench and Bar, and any interested persons, are hereby granted to and including May 31, 2005, in which to file written comments, suggestions, or criticisms to the Clerk of this Court regarding the revisions to the Water Right Claim Examination Rules proposed by the Petition filed by the Water Court. Interested persons are directed to file an original and seven copies of any such comments with the Clerk of this Court.

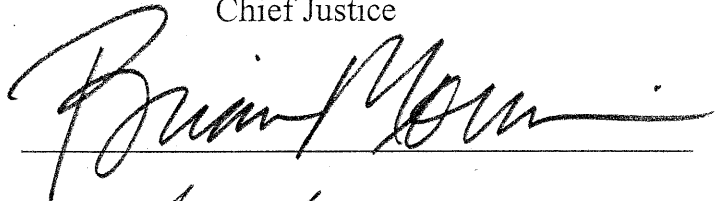
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court give notice of this Order by mail to Keith Maristuen, President of the State Bar of Montana; Chris Manos, Executive

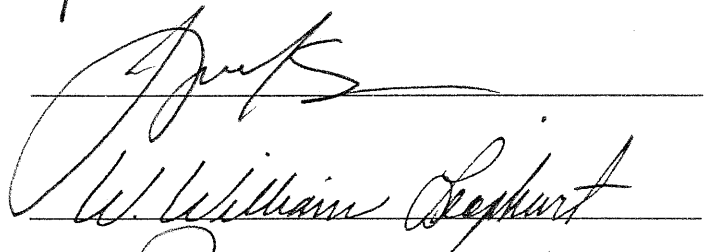
Director, State Bar of Montana; The Honorable C. Bruce Loble, Chief Water Judge, Montana Water Court; Tim D. Hall, Legal Counsel, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; G. Steven Brown, Attorney for the Montana Board of Natural Resources and Conservation; Mike Murphy, Executive Director of the Montana Water Resources Association; Krista Lee Evans, Environmental Quality Council; Judy Meadows, Librarian, State Law Library; and to the Clerks of the District Courts of the State of Montana, who shall provide a copy to the respective District Court Judges.

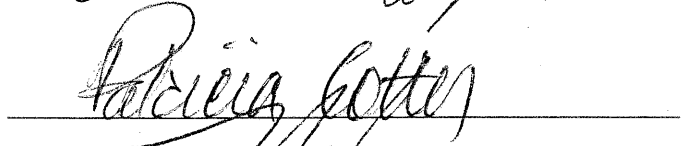
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Montana Water Court shall mail a copy of this Order to the members of the Water Adjudication Advisory Committee.


DATED this 11th day of May 2005.

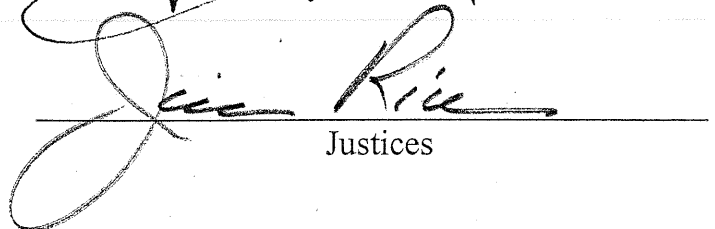
Chief Justice











Justices